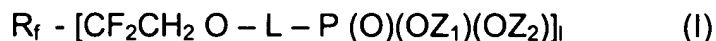


## IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) Concentrated compositions comprising the following components:

A) a (per)fluoropolyether phosphate of general formula:



wherein  $l = 1$  or  $2$ ;

$L$  is a bivalent linking group, preferably of the  $(CHR_1CHR_2O)_n$  type wherein  $R_1, R_2$  equal to or different from each other are selected from  $H, CH_3$ ;  $n$  is an integer in the range  $1-50$ , preferably  $1-6$ ;

$Z_1$  equal to or different from  $Z_2$  selected from  $H$ , alkaline or ammonium cation, ~~preferably 1—4 C atoms~~, di- or tri-alkanolammonium cation wherein alkanol comprises from  $1$  to  $20$  C atoms, ~~preferably 1—4 C atoms~~, di- or tri- or tetra-alkylammonium cation wherein alkyl comprises from  $1$  to  $20$  C atoms, or  $R_f - CF_2CH_2 - O - L$ ;

$R_f$  is a (per)fluoropolyether chain comprising repeating units selected from one or more of the following ones:

- a)  $-(C_3F_6O)-$ ;
- b)  $-(CF_2CF_2O)-$ ;
- c)  $-(CFL_0O)-$ , wherein  $L_0 = -F, -CF_3$ ;
- d)  $-CF_2(CF_2)_{z'}CF_2O-$ , wherein  $z'$  is an integer  $1$  or  $2$ ;
- e)  $-CH_2CF_2CF_2O-$ ;

when  $R_f$  is monofunctional ( $l = 1$ ), an end group is of the perfluoroalkyl type selected from  $CF_3O, C_2F_5O, C_3F_7O$ ; optionally a fluorine atom in the perfluoroalkyl end groups is substituted by a chlorine or hydrogen atom;

B) a solvent selected from the following ones:

linear or branched alcohols from  $2$  to  $3$  carbon atoms and their corresponding methyl ethers; linear or branched glycols from  $2$  to  $6$

carbon atoms and their corresponding mono alkylethers wherein the linear or branched ether alkyl group comprises from 1 to 4 carbon atoms; dimethoxy methane acetone;

C) water.

2. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to claim 1, wherein in the compound of general formula (I)  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  are different from  $R_f$  -  $CF_2CH_2 - O - L$  ; preferably  $Z_1 = Z_2 = H$  and  $L = 2$ .

3. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to ~~claims 1-2~~ claim 1, wherein  $R_f$  is of (per)fluoropolyether type and it is optionally preferably selected from one of the following structures:

1)  $-(CF_2O)_a - (CF_2CF_2O)_b -$

with  $b/a$  in the range 0.3-10, extremes included,  $a$  being an integer different from 0;

2)  $-(CF_2 - (CF_2)_{z'} - CF_2O)_{b'} -$

wherein  $z'$  is an integer equal to 1 or 2;

3)  $-(C_3F_6O)_r - (C_2F_4O)_b - (CFL_0O)_t -$ ,

with  $r/b = 0.5-2.0$   $(r+b)/t = 10-30$ ,  $b$  and  $t$  being integers different from 0;

4)  $-(OC_3F_6)_r - (CFL_0O)_t - OCF_2 - R'_f - CF_2O - (C_3F_6O)_r - (CFL_0O)_t -$

5)  $-(CF_2CF_2CH_2O)_{q'} - R'_f - O - (CH_2CF_2CF_2O)_{q'} -$

wherein:

$R'_f$  is a fluoroalkylene group from 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

$L_0$  is selected between F,  $CF_3$ ;

6)  $-(C_3F_6O)_r - OCF_2 - R'_f - CF_2O - (C_3F_6O)_r -$

wherein in said formulas:

-  $(C_3F_6O)$  - can represent units of formula

-  $(CF(CF_3)CF_2O)$  - and/or -  $(CF_2 - CF(CF_3)O)$  -

and a, b, b', q', r, t, are integers, whose sum is such that  $R_f$  has number average molecular weight  $\overline{M}_n$ , values in the range of about 300 and about 5,000, and preferably in the range 800–2,500.

4. (Original) Compositions according to claim 3, wherein the (per)fluoropolyether chain  $R_f$  is selected from the following structures:

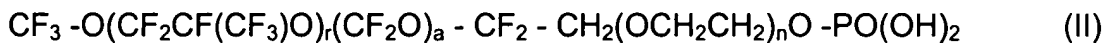
- $(CF_2O)_a - (CF_2CF_2O)_b -$ ;
- $(C_3F_6O)_r - (C_2F_4O)_b - (CFL_0O)_t -$ ;
- $(C_3F_6O)_r - (CFL_0O)_t -$ ;

wherein  $L_0$  and the a,b,r,t indexes have the above mentioned value.

5. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to ~~claims 3 and 4~~ claim 3, wherein the perfluoropolyether chain  $R_f$  is  $-(CF_2O)_a - (CF_2CF_2O)_b -$  and the a and b indexes are as above indicated.

6. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to ~~claims 1-6~~ claim 1, wherein the compounds of formula (I) are those having  $L=(CH_2-CH_2O)_n$  with  $n=1-3$ ;  $Z_1$  equal to or different from  $Z_2$  is selected from H,  $NH_4$ , or an alkaline metal cation;  $l=2$ .

7. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to ~~claims 1-5~~ claim 1, wherein the component A is a (per)fluoropolyether having the following formulas:



wherein  $r/a=0.5-2.0$  and  $n=1 - 2$ ;



wherein  $b/a=0.5-3.0$  and  $n=1 - 2$ ; wherein a, b and r have the above mentioned meaning.

8. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to ~~claims 1-7~~ claim 1, wherein component B) is selected from: ethanol, ethylene glycol,

isopropanol, propanol, acetone, methoxyethanol, propyleneglycol, propan -1,2 - diol, dimethoxy methane, methoxy - isopropanol, diethylene glycol, butan -1,4 - diol, diethyleneglycol monoethylenether, pentan - 1,2 - diol, diethylen - glycol monoethylether, dipropylenglycol, dipropylenglycol monomethylether, dipropylenglycol monoethylether; ~~still more preferably: ethanol, isopropanol and propylene glycol.~~

9. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to ~~claims 1-8~~ claim 1, wherein the amounts of each of the components A), B) and C) range from 0.01% to 70% by weight, ~~preferably from 20% to 40% by weight~~, the sum of A) + B) + C) being the 100% by weight of the composition.

10. (Original) Compositions according to claim 9, wherein the percentage by weight of component A) is in the range 20% - 40%, that of component B) in the range 30 - 70% and water in the range 5 - 30%.

11. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing concentrated compositions according to ~~claims 1-11~~ claim 1, comprising the following steps:

- solubilization or dispersion with partial solubilization of a (per)fluoropolyether phosphate component A) in component B) at room temperature under mild stirring;
- addition under stirring, to the previous mixture, of water component C) initially dropwise, so that component A) is not separated from the solvent, dispersing the drop so that the initial appearance of the solution is recovered before adding the subsequent ones, the water aliquots are gradually increased until the addition is completed, obtaining a limpid solution.

Claims 12-20 (canceled)

21. (New) Compositions according to claim 1 wherein alkanol comprises 1 - 4 atoms or alkyl comprises 1 - 4 C atoms.

22. (New) Compositions according to claim 2 wherein  $Z_1 = Z_2 = H$  and  $I = 2$ .
23. (New) Compositions according to claim 3 wherein  $\overline{M}_n$  values are in the range of 800 – 2,500.
24. (New) Compositions according to claim 8 wherein component B) is selected from ethanol, isopropanol or propylene glycol.
25. (New) Compositions according to claim 9 wherein the amounts of the components A), B) and C) range from 20% to 40% by weight.